

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 10871 081645Z

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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R 081505Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6331

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10871

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, KS, VT

SUBJECT: VATICAN RADIO ON BISHOP CHI

REF: SEOUL 5162

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF PORTION OF VATICAN RADIO AUGUST 6  
NEWSCAST CONCERNING BISHOP CHI:

QUOTE: IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA, A TRIAL IS UNDERWAY AGAINST  
THE BISHOP OF WON JU, MSGR. DANIEL CHI, ACCUSED OF HAVING CON-  
SIGNED A SUM OF MONEY TO THE KOREAN CATHOLIC POET KIM CHI HAK  
WHO PRESUMABLY USED THE MONEY ON BEHALF OF A STUDENT YOUTH  
ASSOCIATION WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE ARREST OF THE PRELATE AND THE PRO-  
CEEDINGS AGAINST HIM, AS DOCUMENTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS,  
HAVE PROVOKED CONCERN AND ALARM IN MANY COUNTRIES AND LIVELY  
APPREHENSION AMONG THE KOREAN BISHOPS AND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY.

THE EQISCOPATE OF THE COUNTRY HAS EXPRESSED ESTEEM FOR  
THE MORAL INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM OF THE IMPRISONED BISHOP,  
AND AT THE SAME TIME RECOGNIZED THE WORK DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT  
FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF KOREA. THE BISHOPS INVITED THE  
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PAGE 02 ROME 10871 081645Z

FAITHFUL TO PRAY FOR THE LIBERATION OF MSGR. CHI SO THAT A

CLIMATE OF NORMALITY AND DISTENSION CAN BE RESTORED TO THE COUNTRY.

IT IS HOPED THAT A FAIR SOLUTION CAN BE QUICKLY FOUND FOR THIS GRAVE EPISODE WHICH, IN CLEARING UP THE FACTS, WILL RECONFIRM THE INTEGRITY AND PATRIOTISM WHICH EVERYONE RECOGNIZES IN MSGR. CHI, AND WHICH AT THE SAME TIME WILL BE INSPIRED BY A RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE HUMAN PERSON. UNQUOTE.

2. VATICAN DEPUTY "FOREIGN MINISTER". MSGR. SILVESTRINI INFORMED US AUGUST 8 THAT HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO HOLY SEE WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO ROME. AMBASSADOR IS SEEMINGLY QUITE AWARE OF DANGERS FOR GROS RELATIONS WITH CATHOLICS AND CHRISTIANS IN GENERAL SHOULD CASE OF BISHOP CHI GET OUT OF HAND. HE HAS TOLD VATICAN THAT WHILE IN SEOUL HE DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO IMPRESS UPON HIS GOVERNMENT THE PRESTIGE WHICH A BISHOP ENJOYS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE DANGER INVOLVED IN BRINGING A BISHOP TO TRIAL. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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